



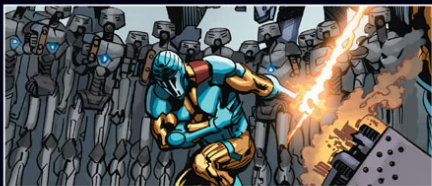
The noble Visigoth warrior Aric of Dacia was kidnapped by the alien race known as the Vine and thrust into slavery on their home planet, Loom. He rebelled and captured the sentient power suit Shanbara, a being worshipped as a deity by the Vine, and returned to Earth - only to discover centuries had passed and the world he knew was gone. Bonded to Shanbara, Aric had lost his home but found a new purpose as the protector of Earth...

X-O MANOWAR

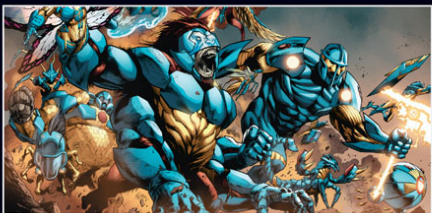
■ The story so far...



The Armor Hunters were a group of alien warriors dedicated to destroying the "armor virus" - sentient armors like Shanbara that they blamed for great devastation & destruction across the universe. They died for their cause, but left behind DEAD HAND, a relentless drone robot army meant to finish the mission.



Dead Hand attacked Loom, the last known location of the Shanbara armor. Aric arrived to defend the Vine, but Dead Hand attacked Loom's sun, causing an explosion that destroyed the planet, chasing its now-peaceful citizens from their home. Aric confronted Dead Hand but found himself hopelessly outgunned.



He returned to the Vine with plans to raise his own army - one made up of the universe's most powerful armor wearers. But it may cost him his own humanity... and maybe even his life!

DEAD HAND is at war.

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SCANNING
STAR SYSTEM.

INHABITED
PLANETS
DETECTED: 1.



SUBROUTINE = SAMPLE LIFE-
FORMS FROM WORLDS FOR
ANALYSIS AND BLENDING.

READYING
SAMPLING
UNITS.

ROUTINE = EXCISE
ARMOR VIRUS
FROM GALAXY.



CHARGING
STAR CANNON.

THE PLANET LOAM.

THE ASHEN REMNANTS OF THE VINE CIVILIZATION.



I
WILL NOT
ALLOW MY
WORLD TO
BECOME
THIS.

IT HAS
BEEN A LONG
TIME SINCE OUR
MINDS BONDED,
SHANHARA. MANY
TRIALS WE HAVE
OVERCOME
TOGETHER.



YET
THERE IS SO
MUCH ABOUT YOU
I STILL DO NOT
COMPREHEND.

YOU ARE
SOMEHOW...
CONNECTED TO
OTHERS LIKE YOU.
SUMMON THEM,
SHANHARA.





WHY HAVE YOU

CALLED THIS CONGRESS

OF OUR KIND?



WHICH OF YOU SPEAKS WITH THE AUTHORITY OF A KING?



KING?

NO KING.

ALL ARMADORS SPEAK



FOR ONE

AND ONE ARMOR.

SPEAKS FOR ALL.



IN TIME

YOU WILL BECOME

ONE AND ALL.



YOU WILL BECOME ARMOR OF THE NAME ARIG.